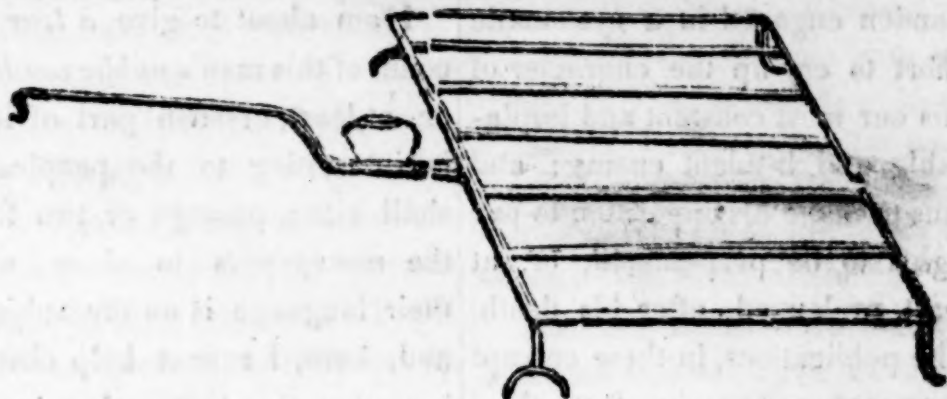


COBBETT'S WEEKLY POLITICAL REGISTER.

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"I will oppose Parliamentary Reform to the last hour of my life in this House."—CANNING'S Speech in the House of Commons, May 4th, 1827.

THE DEATH OF CANNING.

TO THE PARLIAMENTARY REFORMERS.

Barn-Elm Gardens, Surrey.
9th August, 1827.

MY FRIENDS,

GLAD as I naturally am, and must be, unless I be the greatest of hypocrites when I express my conviction of the necessity of Parliamentary Reform, without which I am sure that this our country must be convulsed, or sink into a state of the most abject slavery and the most loathsome degradation; glad as I naturally am, that the Minister who so recently, and in a manner so

ostentatious, so boasting, and so contemptuous and so insolent towards the people; glad as I am that this Minister can *no longer* oppose Reform, and that that "*last hour*," unto which he pledged himself to oppose our rights is arrived; still, having constantly done my best to avenge our cause on this Minister; having stuck closely to him to that last hour, I should now have confined myself to a mere notice of his death and a short expression of my satis-

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[ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.]



faction at it, had I not seen a great part of the infernal press of London engaged in a systematic effort to cry up the character of this our most constant and implacable and insolent enemy; and thus to make his opposition to our rights to be perpetuated, or, at least, prolonged, after his death. The publications, in these corrupt newspapers, say, in fact, this; that the life-long enemy, the deadly enemy, of Parliamentary Reform, was the most humane, just, wise, disinterested and public-spirited of men; they say, that it is a *great national calamity* that he should have died, who said that he would oppose Reform to the last hour of his life.

This being the case; these base deluders being at work in this way, it is necessary to counteract them, and counteract them I can and will. I know very well, that I cannot match this band of deluders in point of extent of immediate circulation; but, I also well know, that, in spite of the trammels imposed on the Register by this very man more than by any other man, it is able to avenge itself; it is able to deaden first, and, finally, to destroy, the efforts of the villanous part of the newspaper press of London, which is, at once, the foolishhest and the

basest thing upon the face of the earth.

I am about to give a *true account* of this man's *public conduct*, or, at least, of such part of it as is interesting to the people. I shall cite a passage or two from the newspapers to show what their language is on the subject; and, here, I cannot help observing, that the bell-wether in the blubbering is that same vile OLD TIMES, which actually pursued poor CASHMAN to the gallows; which, at the same time, called for the *destruction* of Mr. HUNT; which justified the placard offering 500*l.* reward for Buonaparté, *dead or alive*; which justified the butchering of *suspected republicans* at Nismes; and which has never failed to be on the side of oppression and cruelty, whenever these have found the timid and selfish part of the public in the opinion that oppression and cruelty were necessary to their safety and ease. The tears of an old she devil of a paper like this are not very flattering to the memory of the deceased; by such let him be lamented! And, if we have tears to shed, let them be reserved for the victims of the measures of which this man, who is now dead, has been the most bold, most

daring, most insolent, most unfeeling, most cruel supporter.

Amongst the mass of canting rubbish that now lies before me, it is difficult to know where to lay one's hand. The whole tends to the same point; that is, to make people believe, that the NATION has sustained A LOSS by the death of this man. The rest of the matter is mere *howl*, and is not more worthy of serious remark than would be the howling of so many dogs. I shall take, merely as a specimen, an article of the Morning Chronicle of yesterday, the 8th of August, in which article the death is announced to the readers of that paper. There is a short paragraph, in the same paper, dated the evening before, which I will also insert here, as a curious piece of *puffery*.

"Chiswick, Tuesday Evening.

"Nothing can exceed the painful interest which is manifested by every person in this village. The utmost gloom prevails; and if any thing was wanting to prove the value of the Right Honourable Gentleman's public services, the almost incessant inquiries that are made at Chiswick House would be amply sufficient to attest them. Not a movement is made by the servants, but is immediately construed into matter of either hope or fear, by the crowds of anxiously

awaiting spectators. Not a person attached to the establishment can leave the house without being immediately surrounded by a crowd, anxiously inquiring if he could give the slightest intelligence on the subject, which so entirely engrosses the public attention."

Now, the object of this is to deceive *all who are at a distance*, whether at home or abroad; to make people believe, that this man's *measures* were relished by those who are *near the seat of government*, and who are likely to understand a great deal about them. One way to get a thing *believed in, or approved of*, is to make those, to whom you address yourself, believe, that "*every body*," that "*the public*," that "*all the world*," believes it, or likes it. Few men like to be *shut out* of such an immense majority; and thus people are entrapped much in the same way that wild pigeons are netted in America; for, these being made to believe, that *all the other pigeons* in the vicinage are feeding, or getting to feed, on the fatal spot, and fearing that they shall be *too late*, dart away to it like shot out of a gun, till the fowler, seeing as many as his nets will cover, pulls his cord, and sets to work, pinching the necks of the "*poor deluded* (feathered) *people*."

Doctor Black does not, I dare say, want to *pinch the necks* of the hundreds of thousands that he hopes and expects to deceive by this decoy of his; but, he wants to do something pretty nearly as bad to them: he wants, in the end, to *pinch their purses*. He wants to persuade them to believe that CANNING was a *Saint and Solomon* both in one, and that, of course, the apostate Whigs and others, whom CANNING put into place, and from whom *Doctor Black* is looking for the power of helping to pick our bones, are of the Saint and Solomon sort, and that they, therefore, ought to *remain in power*, as long, at least, as shall be necessary to enable them to settle the Doctor snugly upon the poor raw-boned carcass of this beggared nation. Hence all the pains of the Doctor, and others like him, to make the nation believe, that CANNING was a wise and virtuous statesman, and that he was *of great value to the people of this country*. And, hence the *nation* is told, that the whole of the *village, in which he died*, was kept in a state of constant uproar by the anxiety which the people felt on his account. Never was there a more impudent falsehood than this put into the columns of Mr. Brougham's "best possible public instructor." It is as barefaced a lie as any that ever was put forth by cool, premeditating, hardened, thick-skinned Scotchman. The people of the village of Chiswick appeared to care no more about Canning than if there had been no such man in the world. I will state two facts, of which I am ready to produce proof upon oath. I rent some gardens in Surrey, at Barn-Elm, which is about a mile, perhaps, lower down the Thames, than the little village of Chiswick, in which is the house of the Duke of Devonshire, in which house the man died. On the Surrey side there is a tow-path all the way down the river. Along this tow-path those that want to cross the river go upwards or downwards, till they come to some ferrying-place. There is one of these ferrying places very nearly opposite the Duke of Devonshire's house. On Tuesday morning last, I sent my clerk from Barn Elm, to go along the tow-path, take a boat opposite Chiswick, and there go over and find out, if he could, what was the state of the man who called the reformers "a low, degraded crew." When he came back he told me that it was some time before he could find any body in the village that had heard any thing

about the state of Canning; but that, at last, he met the postman, or letter-man, who told him that the man who called upon the House to make a stand against democratical encroachment, was *all but dead*. My clerk could not refrain from expressing his surprise at the state of ignorance and indifference which prevailed in the village of Chiswick with regard to the jester on Ogden's rupture; and he was particularly struck with the state of ignorance in which the boat-man was, who took him across the river. He had called this man across from Chiswick; so that, as soon as he got into the boat, he asked the boat-man what was now the state of Mr. Canning: whether he were dead or not. The boat-man not only knew nothing about the state of Canning, but did not know that there was such a man in the world; had never heard of a man of that name before, and was surprised to hear that there was a gentleman dying at the Duke of Devonshire's house, and did not know that there was any body ill there; and yet, so near a neighbour was he of the defunct, that he landed his fare close to the wall of the Duke of Devonshire's garden, which was, indeed, the landing-place for his boat, his own house being close by.

The other fact is this: yesterday morning, between 7 and 8 o'clock, I, who had slept at my gardens at this place, was going into town to see about my turnpike people; and I thought, to kill two birds with one stone, I would go by the way of Hammersmith instead of going down to Putney, and crossing the Thames at Putney Bridge. My clerk was with me: we went to the water side, opposite Hammersmith, wishing to get over upon the new chain bridge. The bridge-people were hard-hearted, would not let us over, so that we had to go down upon the tow-path and to call a boat over from Hammersmith. The boat having come, and we having got into it, the following dialogue, as nearly as possible word for word, took place.

COBBETT. Well, boatman, I suppose you are all in great grief here?

BOATMAN. Aye, Sir, we had cause enough before; but this here bridge will take from us the few pence that we used to get.

COBBETT. Bridge! What the devil, do you think I am talking to you about grief of that sort! I mean, grief for Mr. Canning. Do you know how he is this morning?

BOATMAN. Canning! I don't

know such a man; whereabouts does he live, Sir?

COBBETT. What the devil! have you not heard of the prime minister of England, who is at the house of the Duke of Devonshire here, at Chiswick, and who is like to die?

BOATMAN. Poor man! I'm sorry for't, but don't know un, I'm sure.

COBBETT. Well, but, now tell me truly, waterman; did you never hear of this Mr. Canning?

BOATMAN. No, upon my soul, Sir, I never heard the name before in my life!

COBBETT. Why, did you never read about him in the newspapers?

BOATMAN. Ah, I never reads they, for my part.

By this time we had got pretty nearly to the shore, on which we stepped, and I said to Mr. Riley, coming up the bank, "Doctor Black would certainly say that 'here was a want of *anteluc* such 'as must cause the ruin of the 'nation.'" I could not help laughing at the wonderful popularity that had not reached from Chiswick to Hammersmith, which is rather a long three quarters of a mile! These two facts admit of proof upon oath. It did not occur to either of us to take the

names of the watermen, which I certainly should have done, in my case, if I had seen Doctor Black's paper before I saw the waterman. I will, however, find out his name yet; for, all the circumstances being taken into consideration, it is worth being a little particular about it. It is right that such brazen lies should be exposed: one good exposure breaks in upon the current of lies and disturbs its course for some time. I pronounce this to be an impudent lie published by Doctor Black: I assert that the greatest indifference prevailed with regard to Canning, amongst the general run of the inhabitants of the village of Chiswick. But, the two facts that I have stated, and that I am ready to prove by oath, will serve as a criterion to every sensible person at a distance. Watermen are not amongst the least knowing of mankind. These watermen could not be fools, for a fool could not have taken a boat across the river and brought it back again. Watermen see persons in great numbers and in great variety, in point of station and age. If there be a bustling spot in the village, they are in it. If there had been *much talk* about Canning, whether for or against him, or whether about his sickness

or his health, these watermen must have heard some of that talk. The conclusion is, therefore, that here was no such talk. The main body of the people at Chiswick and in the neighbourhood are capital market gardeners, and have numerous labourers, female as well as male. Their occupations are more rational, and more healthy than that of sitting upon benches or lounging about the corners of streets and reading rubbishy newspapers. They know about nothing but their business on the work-days, and the church or the meeting-house on the Sundays, and the pots of beer or other enjoyments which they have, and which they have a right to have. Canning's being alive or dead was a matter of no consequence to them, and he was not famous enough; he was not well enough known; he had done nothing sufficient to make himself talked about enough for them ever to have heard of him.

This is a very fair criterion of the celebrity which he had attained to, and of the degree of anxiety which the people entertained about him. Let us leave that lie, then, and now come to the more elaborate performance of Doctor Black of yesterday morning, which I shall first insert and then remark on.

"The event for which the whole nation has been but too well prepared has taken place—GEORGE CANNING is no more. He died this morning at about a quarter before four o'clock.—The country has thus been deprived of *this distinguished statesman* in a few short months after his elevation to the highest seats in his Majesty's Councils, of which he *had long been the great stay*—long before the term which years, and the original strength of his frame seemed to claim for him. As he was born some time in the year 1770, he must have been about fifty-seven at his death.—We are unwilling to believe that the mean and vindictive men, who were excluded from power because, by *their own admission*, they themselves were *not of consequence enough to form such an Administration as the country would support*, speculated on the effect their incessant calumnies would have in *destroying the man* who so much overshadowed them, that they considered his very proposal to the Sovereign to form a Cabinet—of which he himself should be no part,—in the light of an insult, knowing as they did the reduced state in which a severe illness had left him, and *the extreme sensibility of his nature*. We are unwilling, we say, to believe, that there are Ministers in human form, who could coolly contrive the end of a political opponent by such assassin-

"like means, and mark, day after
 "day, the success of their efforts
 "with a fiendish satisfaction. We
 "are unwilling to believe that the
 "gross and vulgar attacks to which
 "he has been, without a day's inter-
 "mission, exposed, and which made
 "the nation blush to think that her
 "high places were polluted by men
 "who could condescend to such
 "unworthy means of warfare, were
 "the work of cool malignity, aware
 "of the success with which it would
 "be attended. We cannot believe
 "that the *titled ruffians* who poured
 "out day after day their coarse
 "abuse on one who must, more than
 "any one circumstance, have felt
 "the mortification of having to be
 "considered as opposed to enemies
 "so unworthy of him, aimed their
 "blows in the guilty consciousness of
 "their effect on their enemy. But if we
 "admit that they betook themselves
 "to calumny and misrepresentation,
 "if they fabricated the constant lie
 "with a less fiendish design than
 "that to which we have alluded, it
 "is not the less true, that *they have*
 "*murdered Mr. Canning.* He has
 "been as much *destroyed by these*
 "*wretched creatures* as if they had
 "held the poisoned cup to his mouth,
 "or struck their victim with a dagger
 "to the heart. In his full vigour and
 "strength Mr. Canning might have
 "treated their efforts with contempt.
 "But enfeebled by a long illness,
 "from which it was obvious to the
 "most superficial observer he had

"never sufficiently recovered, he
 "was in that state of morbid excita-
 "bility which left him peculiarly
 "open to the attacks to which he
 "was necessarily exposed. He has
 "thus fallen under the blows of his
 "mean and worthless enemies, who
 "have now the satisfaction of know-
 "ing that they *deprived the country*
 "*of him*, whose elevation was such
 "a humiliation to them, proving, as
 "it did to the nation, the low esti-
 "mate which was taken of their
 "capacity. When we think of *the loss*
 "*the nation has sustained*, and of the
 "cause to which we are to attribute
 "it, we cannot restrain *our indigna-*
 "*tion.* It is grievous to know that
 "*a life so valuable to England and to*
 "*Europe* should have been thus
 "taken. But the hour at which we
 "write forces us to pause."—

On the excessive stupidity of
 this article, on the childish stupi-
 dity of it, on the desperateness of
 poor Doctor Black who writes it;
 on these, I shall remark, perhaps,
 by-and-bye; though it may be
 sufficient, perhaps, to beg the
 reader just to cast his eye over
 the charge of "MURDER" here
 brought by the humane and in-
 dignant Doctor against the "*titled*
ruffians" who have assassinated
 the great jester upon Ogden's rup-
 ture. I shall, perhaps, by-and-
 bye, remark, if I should have
 time to spare, on these most stupid

parts of this most stupid paragraph; but there is the brazen part; the pure Scotch brass for me to remark on first. It is here distinctly asserted that this man was a distinguished statesman; it is distinctly asserted that his death is a loss to the nation; it is distinctly asserted that his life was greatly valuable to England and to Europe. All this, Doctor Black, *I assert to be false*, and, in order to make good my assertion, and with a view of putting upon record that which may serve to counteract those falsehoods which you circulate about for the aforementioned purposes, I state, I assert to be true, the following propositions, which propositions, Doctor, I call upon you to contradict, if you can, one by one. If you cannot contradict them, and contradict the whole of them, too, you, who have professed a love of liberty and reform, are an apostate, unless you now acknowledge your error with regard to this man, who I am going to show was an enemy of his country from the first moment that that country heard of him. Here I come, then, with my propositions, Doctor; and come you, if you dare, with your contradictions.

1. That Canning, GEORGE CANNING, who is now dead at

Chiswick, became a sinecure placeman, about five and thirty years ago, almost as soon as he was put into Parliament, and that he continued to be a sinecure placeman to the day of his death; having received, for his sinecure alone, about seventeen thousand pounds of the public money, partly paid by the miserable labourer who goes to the field with cold potatoes in his wallet.

2. That CANNING, though almost constantly in high and lucrative office, during the last five and thirty years, got his mother and his half sister placed upon the pension-list, to cause them to be kept by the people, instead of keeping them himself. That they were put upon the pension-list, some years, perhaps, before 1803; but that they were certainly on it then, as agreeably to the return laid before the House of Commons, under the names of MARY and MARIA HUNN, who, in the capacity of pensioners, have received, at the least, ten thousand pounds of the public money, collected, in part, from the labouring people.

3. That CANNING has a son in the Navy, called WILLIAM PITT CANNING, who is a Captain in the Navy, and who has been raised to that post over the heads of thousands upon thousands of officers of spotless character, who were at sea, on board the English Navy, before this William Pitt Canning was born; and that this William Pitt Canning cannot, in all human probability, have ever seen a shot fired against an enemy, or have ever been on board of a ship that was exposed to the hostility of an enemy.

4. That CANNING was, all but about five years of the time that he was in Parliament (which was about five and thirty years) constantly in some very lucrative post. He was an Under Secretary of State at one time, Paymaster of the Forces at another time, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs at another time, President of the Board of Controul for India Affairs at another time, Ambassador to Portugal at another time; then back again, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and now, lastly, First Lord

of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer. Here have been thirty years, at an average, I should suppose, of four thousand pounds a-year salary, besides the patronage and other valuable things hanging to high offices; so that, here is a sum, altogether, of about *a hundred and twenty thousand pounds* of hard money, taken from the people in taxes, and bestowed upon a man whom we shall presently see totally unfit to be intrusted with the management of the nation's affairs, and whom we shall finally see the opponent of the rights and liberties of the people, and the hardened defender of the most cruel of their oppressions, from the first hour of his political life to the last.

5. That the ambassadorship to Portugal deserves particular mention, as there was neither king nor queen, nor court in Portugal at the time; and that, notwithstanding these circumstances, he, besides the enormous outfit and other contingencies, received a salary of *fourteen thousand pounds a-year*, two years of

which, added to the above-mentioned sum, and taking into view the outfit and contingencies, makes, at the very least, *a hundred and fifty thousand pounds sterling* which this man has received out of the labour of the people of England.

6. That, with regard to his *capacity* as a Statesman, we have only barely to state certain notorious facts: the first of which is, that, in the year 1816, he said in his place in Parliament, that there was no derangement of the pecuniary affairs of the country; that all was safe and sound; that the "sun of our prosperity was indeed obscured by a cloud for the moment; but that the cloud would soon pass away and that the sun of our prosperity would return in all his effulgence."

7. That, in the year 1819, he called upon the House to pass **PEEL'S BILL** by an unanimous vote; and, when it had done that, he declared the subject of the currency to be set at rest for ever.

8. That, in 1824, after the fatal effects of Peel's Bill had been felt and acknowledged;

after that bill had been in part repealed, in order to save the nation from destruction; after these, he, in a speech wherein he opposed Parliamentary Reform, and wherein he contended that the House of Commons ought not to speak the voice of the people; he, in this speech, stated that the people, if they had been consulted upon the passing of Peel's Bill, would not have passed it, and that this was a *proof* that it was good for the House not to speak the voice of the people!

9. That, having silently assented to a part repeal of Peel's Bill in 1822, he, in 1826, imputed the panic which had just then taken place to that part repeal of Peel's Bill; and that he now was eager to support an act to put an end to one-pound notes altogether, at the end of three months; and that, though he and his colleagues were prevailed upon to make the time three years instead of three months, this change has altered the value of money again, has silently violated contracts again, has totally ruined thousands upon thou-

sands of families, and, as is agreed on all hands, now leaves us to choose one of three things: *another panic, a bank-restriction and assignats, or a general convulsive revolution.*

10. That, upon this last occasion, he uttered some of the foolishlest things that ever came out of the lips of man; amongst which was, that he wished every man in the country to have "a piece of gold in his pocket" and "a fowl in his pot;" and that, in order, I suppose, to produce these effects, he wished to see the currency of the country "a mountain of paper, the base of which should be irrigated with gold."
11. That, in proportion as he has had power, the nation has become poor and wretched; that within the space of five years, since he last came into place, the begging-box has twice gone round from door to door by royal authority, once for the Irish, and the other time for the English; and that (to conclude his character as a Statesman for Domestic Affairs), his budget-speech of last spring

was a composition worthy of no man that was more than one degree above an idiot; and that this was, and is, the universal opinion amongst all well-informed men.

12. That, not to forget this last trait of his supreme ignorance relative to things affecting the well-being of the people, he asserted in his speech on the first day of the last session of Parliament, that, in times of public distress, to build palaces was *peculiarly suitable, as employment* arose out of such buildings for persons who would otherwise not be employed: thereby laying it down as his opinion, as the opinion of this statesman of Doctor Black, that to take away by force a part of the earnings of productive labour to give it to those who were employed in unproductive labour, was *peculiarly suitable* with a view of producing an alleviation of the public distress; that, to take away the dinner of the man employed in raising wheat and to give it to the man employed in pulling down new palaces and building up other new palaces for a king, tended to alleviate the

distress, felt by the labouring classes!

13. That, stupid, senseless, impertinent, utterly mischievous as he was, and, entertaining these notions, must have been, if intrusted with the management of domestic affairs, still more mischievous has he been as a Minister of Foreign Affairs, in his management of which his desire to shine as a jester, as a maker of jibes and a triumpher in quibble has invariably superseded every other consideration. His dispatches have, in almost every case, been in a style which would pass well enough amongst rival women, wishing to cut each other deeply, while each strives to outdo the other in terms of civility. His public papers, as he called them, seemed to have nothing but the antithesis, the alliteration or the triumphant quibble in view. He is always like a school-boy, he is always trying to get the laugh at the person with whom he is corresponding. Here he shines; but a most mischievous shining it is: grave men of business, who cannot keep their places by the means of borough-

mongering interests, and who cannot get heaps of money in pensions and sinecures by merely asking for them, have, when they are carrying on their diplomatic affairs, no time for jesting, and little disposition to jest, or to be the objects of either jesting or sarcastic cutting. Mr. JEFFERSON did not relish this; and that was the ground, the real ground of the last war between England and America. The quarrel was long brewing; but it was this CANNING that began that brewing: he was the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and ROSE the Ambassador; I mean *Bible Rose*, OLD GEORGE ROSE's son: these were the two that brewed that war, which ended with the battle of New Orleans, after having witnessed disgraces, naval as well as military, at the very thought of which an Englishman ought to hang his head, and after having added upwards of seventy millions of pounds sterling to the debt of this burthened and broken-backed nation.

14. That, in 1822 and 1823, he, by a series of the most shameful blunders, of the

most coxcomb tricks, of the most humiliating meannesses, of the most bungling attempts at over-reaching and intimidating, let the French snugly into Spain; that, he, when, by his want of skill he had encouraged them to march, and saw that he could not stop them, **PRAYED**, in public Parliament, that they might not have success in Spain: thereby showing to the French, and to the whole world, that England wished to prevent, that which she wanted either the power or the honesty to prevent.

15. That, by his proceedings with regard to Spain, people in this country were induced to confide in the Cortes to lend them their money; and that, therefore, there his unskilful and stupid proceedings have caused innumerable families, the holders of Spanish bonds, to be totally ruined.

16. That his proceedings with regard to South America have been equally fatal; that his acknowledgment of the independence of those states, was, so far as it could be made so by time and manner, calculated to be injurious to this country as well as to those states; that we need

nothing more to enable us to judge of this man's capacity as a minister, than the fact that, at the moment when he was actually boasting of having "called the New World into existence," hundreds and thousands of English merchants, manufacturers, and money-lenders, were in a state of ruin from their shipments and loans to that famous new world of his creation; and that other fact, that Bolivar, the leader of the liberals in that Canning-created world, had, just then, or very soon afterwards, declared to the happy citizens of his republic, that the first man of them that dared to *speak ill of his government should be put to death!*

17. That the sending of our troops to Portugal will, before it be over, cost this nation more, in all human probability, than *the amount of a whole year's poor-rates*; that the money, thus sent away, and that will be lost to England for ever, thus squandered away upon profligate soldiers, and in all manner of ways injurious to the cause of virtue and of freedom and of peace, would have kept a third part of all the labour-

ing people in this kingdom, for the whole of a long and hard winter.

18. That in return for this expenditure, we can hope for nothing but disgrace; that there is every prospect of our troops remaining in Portugal, until the oversetting of that constitution which they were sent to support as being completed; and that they will then come back, and exhibit themselves to us in order to remind us of the heavy loss that we have sustained by the death of this Canning.

19. That the *Morning Chronicle* asserts that the death of Canning is a loss to Europe in general, as well as to England in particular; that if he be a loss to the rest of Europe, it must be in his capacity of entertaining buffoon or punchinello, for that it is notorious that his divers pragmatical tricks, and, particularly, his *Æolian* speech, has made him the subject of jest in all foreign courts, and that, dull and stupid as Castlereagh was, he did not sink the dignity of the country in the manner that this man has done, who I assert to be

the most unfit and the most unsuccessful Minister of Foreign Affairs that this country has known within my recollection; and that this is proved by the French being in actual possession of all the strong holds of Spain; by the Russians being in a very fair way to become the masters of the Mediterranean; by the vast increase of the fleets of France, by the undoubted fact that Portugal is about to be placed under the authority of the great powers of the continent of Europe; by the undoubted fact that the United States of America is going gradually on to be able to combat England upon the seas single-handed in every part of the world, though only fourteen years ago, he saucily observed, in the House of Commons, that the whole force of those States consisted of half-a-dozen of frigates, with bits of striped bunting flying at their masts; and, lastly, by the undoubted fact, that, instead of "calling a new world into existence," he has caused that new world to create bands of contending despots, tearing

the country to pieces, and, at the same time, emptying the pockets of the people of England.

20. That, if we find him thus as to his capacity as a Minister, we find him still worse as to his principles and his conduct as a politician; as to his treatment of the people of England; as to the efforts which he has been constantly making, during the whole of his life, since he became a man, against their rights, liberties and happiness.
21. That, to take a few instances only, soon after he became a member of Parliament and a receiver of the public money, he became the conductor of a newspaper, entitled the *Anti-jacobin*, in which paper, regarding every opponent of the measures of Pitt as a jacobin, he treated all those opponents as guilty wretches who deserved punishment of some sort or other; that in that publication, which was set up and supported by the public money, no rank, no character, no age, no talent, no degree of innocence was sufficient to cause a man to be spared.
22. That, during the reign of Pitt,

and during every other administration from that day to this, he was the boldest and most daring defender of every suspension of the Act of Habeas Corpus, and of every measure for curbing and trammelling the press, and for inflicting punishment on every man or set of men, accused of political offences, and the opponent of every proposition, without one single exception, for taking off or diminishing, penalties inflicted on such persons.

23. That, in the month of May, 1809, CASTLEREAGH having been accused of trucking a cadetship for a vote in Parliament, or, rather, having been accused of having entered into a negotiation for that purpose, this Canning moved a resolution stating that it was "the bounden duty of the House to watch carefully over its purity; but that, the act in question not having been completed, it was not necessary for the House to proceed any further for the present."
24. That, after this, in the same month of May, 1809, Mr. MADDOCKS accused Castlereagh and others of having

sold a seat in Parliament, on condition that the purchaser should vote for the ministry ; and that the party having voted against the ministry, Castlereagh called upon him to give up his seat, which he did ; that Mr. Maddocks pledged himself to bring, if he were permitted, proof of this to the bar of the House ; that he made a motion to be permitted to produce such proof ; that the motion was rejected by a vast majority ; that this Canning voted and spoke against that motion ; that during that speech he called those who were endeavouring to put an end to these practices "*a low, degraded crew*"; that he called their endeavour "*a democratical encroachment*"; that he called upon the House "*to make a stand*" against that encroachment ; though, only a few days before, he had proposed and got passed a resolution of the same House, that it was their bounden duty to guard, most watchfully, their own purity.

25. That, in the disgraceful year of 1817, he was the most daring of all the defenders of the Power-of-Imprison-

ment Bills brought in by Sidmouth and Castlereagh, Bills which authorize the ministers to seize any man that they might suspect of treasonable practices ; to take him, without producing any evidence against him, without letting him know his accuser or telling him of any particular act that he was accused of, to send him without any commitment stating the precise nature of his offences, to any jail, in any part of the kingdom, to keep him in solitary dungeon, without the use of pen, ink or paper, and cut off from all communication with wife, parents, children or friends, and even from being seen or visited by the ordinary visiting magistrates of the county or town ; and, there to keep the unfortunate creature in total ignorance of the accusation against him, of the duration of his imprisonment, and of every other circumstance at all tending to alleviate the sufferings of his mind.

26. That, in the year 1818, when some of these unfortunate men had found the means of petitioning the Par-

liament, and of representing the sufferings of their bodies and the anguish of their minds, this Canning turned their complaints into jest, and particularly the complaint of a most worthy and aged man of Manchester, who had been totally ruined in his business, and who complained of a disorder brought upon him by the violence of those who had seized him and imprisoned him, and to whose truly horrifying statement he answered by a jest, in which he termed the petitioner "the REVERED AND RUP-TURED OGDEN," thereby, as the newspaper report of the debate stated, exciting in the House, "*a loud and general roar of laughter.*"

27. That it is just; that bare justice demands, that the people of England now hear what it was that was the subject of this jest, and that excited, together with the jest, this loud and general roar of laughter; and, in order to do this act of justice, I here insert the statement of the petitioner.

"On Sunday, the 9th March, 1817, I was arrested, early in

"the morning, by warrant from
 "Lord Sidmouth, charging me
 "to be suspected of high trea-
 "son, which was in every re-
 "spect false, as the event has
 "proved. I was immediately
 "conveyed to prison in Man-
 "chester, and placed in con-
 "finement among felons, till
 "Tuesday, after three o'clock
 "in the afternoon; nor had I
 "any allowance either in meat or
 "drink for the whole time save a
 "threepenny pie, ordered, at my
 "request, by COL. SYLVESTER,
 "a magistrate, which I eagerly
 "ate, just before I set off for
 "London. I was ironed before
 "the said magistrate, with a
 "manacle not less than 30lbs.
 "weight, and treated in the
 "most taunting manner.—On
 "my applying to *be confronted*
 "*with my accuser, I was treated*
 "*with insult*, and posted off to
 "London, as before mentioned,
 "and lodged in Horsemonger-
 "lane jail. The very ponde-
 "rous irons I was loaded with,
 "broke my belly, and caused
 "an hernia to ensue, about
 "eight o'clock in the evening,
 "when going to bed; and as it
 "was impossible for me to alarm
 "the gaoler, *I remained in that*
 "*dreadful state for more than*
 "*fifteen hours*, in the most ex-
 "cruciating pain and torture.
 "On the turnkey appearing
 "next morning, two surgeons
 "were sent for by Mr. WAL-

"TERS, the governor, who, after
 "using such means as seemed
 "proper, found nothing would
 "do but the knife, and *they ap-*
 "*prehended, from my age (74)*
 "*that I should die under the ope-*
 "*ration.* The pain was so great
 "that I could endure it no
 "longer, and therefore, at all
 "hazards, I insisted on the
 "operation being resorted to,
 "which continued *for one hour*
 "*and forty minutes.* Praised be
 "God and the skill of my sur-
 "geons, I survived it, contrary,
 "however, to the surgeons' ex-
 "pectation, and much weak-
 "ened in my constitution. Mr.
 "DIXON, the surgeon, and his
 "partner, performed the opera-
 "tion in the infirmary of the
 "prison. The wound in my
 "groin was above seven inches
 "in length, and Mr. DIXON *had*
 "*my entrails out of my belly in*
 "*his fingers like a link of sau-*
 "*sages;* a circumstance on which,
 "I learn, a *Right Honourable*
 "*Gentleman* was afterwards so
 "jocular and entertaining in
 "the House of Commons. Mr.
 "WALTERS, the governor, was
 "present during the operation,
 "and he, as well as the sur-
 "geons, can attest the truth of
 "my statement.—Thus have I,
 "at the AGE OF SEVENTY-FOUR,
 "been torn from my family,
 "crushed almost to death with
 "irons, suffered near nine
 "*months' solitary confinement,*

"and ruined in my employ, as
 "a printer; and I declare be-
 "fore God, who is omnipotent,
 "omniscient and oinnipresent,
 "that I had done no wrong. I
 "may add, that I am the father
 "of seventeen children, whom
 "I have supported and edu-
 "cated, at my own expense, *by*
 "*my own labour,* and I may
 "truly say, that I have always
 "been a bringer to the general
 "stock, and not like he who
 "made a jest of my sufferings,
 "been a taker from it during
 "his whole life.

"WM. OGDEN.

"No. 26, Wood-street, Manchester."

28. That, in 1819, he defended, more daringly than any other man, the conduct of the Manchester Magistrates and Yeomanry on the 16th of August of that year; and that his abuse, poured out on the Reformers, was now more loud, virulent, and incessant than ever.

29. That, in the same year, he was the most daring and unfeeling and persevering of all the defenders of SIX ACTS, two of which aimed directly at the total extinguishment of all remains of the freedom of the press; that one of these requires every man who is about to print, or who then did print, a newspaper, to

give bail, in 300*l.* himself, and *two sureties* in 150*l.* each, *before printing at all*, to pay *any fines* that he might be, *after that*, sentenced to pay for any thing that he *might thereafter print or publish*; that the other act sentences to *banishment for life* any man who shall, a second time, print or publish or write to be printed or published, any thing having a *tendency* to bring either House of Parliament into *contempt*; that Canning not only defended both these Acts, but expressed his pleasure, his joy, his exultation at their being brought before the House; that a motion was made by somebody for limiting the duration of these Acts to five years, it being dreadful that such disgraceful Acts should be made *perpetual*; that nineteen twentieths of the opposition to this motion was made by Canning himself, who said that such laws were good and proper and ought always to exist; that, when called upon to discriminate and so to contrive it that a *particular part* of the press might be kept down while the rest

was left free, he said that he saw no possibility of singling out the "*ignoble beast*," and that therefore he would "*drive at the whole herd*;" that, when pressed upon the subject of five years' duration, he answered, his hands being tucked in his breeches pockets, and his head tossed up and twirled about, "no: I *will extinguish the accursed torch of discord for ever!*" and now, he himself is *extinguished*, and the torch still remains to scatter about light, and, particularly, with regard to his character and conduct; that the apostate politicians, who affected to disapprove of these terrible Acts, and who affected to wish to shorten the duration of them, have recently joined him, have recently ranged themselves behind him, have recently pledged themselves to support him, and, when, towards the close of the last Session of Parliament, a motion was made to repeal the former of these Acts, these apostates supported him in opposing the repeal, joined him in opposing the repeal of an Act which they affected so stre-

nuously to endeavour to prevent being passed ; that, to all his other misdeeds, that of forming a coalition with this crew of barefaced apostates is now to be added.

30. That, so far from being ashamed of having defended these Acts and exulting at their being passed and made perpetual, he, soon afterwards, in his speech at Liverpool, boasted of what he had done ; that he took this occasion of putting forth his jibes on those who wished for Parliamentary Reform ; that he cited what he called the then tranquillity of the country as a proof that the House of Commons *worked well* ; and he cited the Six Acts as an unanswerable proof that the House wanted no reforming. In 1820, he openly defended the employing of spies ; that he not only defended such employing, but made it a merit in the employers, and said that it would be criminal in them not to employ such spies ; and, it is here to be added, that the case of *Edwards the spy*, was particularly under consideration.

31. That, since the year 1820, he has undeviatingly pursued the same course whenever occasion served ; and, at last, on the 4th of May, 1827, he made the insolent declaration contained in the motto to this Register, namely : " I will oppose Parliamentary Reform, in whatever shape it may appear, to the last hour of my life in this House " !

The last hour is come, then ; and, base, base indeed, is the Englishman who does not rejoice that it is come. This last declaration, considering the time and the manner, and considering his then situation, did, perhaps surpass in insolence, any thing that he had ever done before. Upon all occasions, indeed, he seemed to pride himself upon surpassing all others in showing his contempt of the people, and in displaying his insolence towards them. This was his way of making his court to those whom he knew to be able to support him. He was the barker ; the standing barker at the people. He was like a drover's bitten dog, who shows his officiousness in biting the unoffending and defenceless animal that is driven. And, was this man to expect the love of the people of England ? Was he to expect the support of the people ? The *Morning Chronicle* accuses the "*titled ruffians*," as Doctor Black, in his northern politeness, is pleased to call them, of having been the cause of the death of this man. I do not believe that there was any cause of the kind at work. I do not believe that he cared a straw about the opinions of any body, so long as he could keep his place and his emoluments. I do not flatter myself that he has been killed by his consciousness of the detestation of the people ; but if any thing of this sort had been capable of having an effect upon his mind, it was the well-known detestation of the people, and the consciousness of having merited it, that produced the effect of which Doctor Black speaks.

It is by no means certain that

any thing but his mere physical diseases had any thing to do with producing his death. He was a shallow, vain, thoughtless man; an intriguer, that thought a good deal about his own advancement; but I do not believe that he had the smallest apprehensions of danger to his ambition from the difficulties and distresses of the country. His several speeches about the currency, and his budget-speech in particular, prove that he knew nothing of the matter. He had a persuasion loosely floating in his mind, that the great wealth of the country would carry it through its difficulties. He had seen, all his life-time, that the *clerks* did all the real business of the offices; he had seen that **PITT** and **LIVERPOOL** carried on the thing very well without knowing any more of the matter than he did; and he concluded that he should get along in the same way. If, indeed, he had understood the subject, apprehensions might have preyed upon his mind: as it was, he was as unaffected by it as the waterman at Hammersmith was by his illness. He could not, however, help perceiving that he had no part of what is really the public with him. He had a dozen or two of base creatures who traffic in newspaper columns; and he had a public who despised these creatures. He might have been deceived before he became minister. Every newspaper that he saw told him that he was adored by the people; but when he saw that, even in the Common Council of London, such great care was taken so to model the Address to the King that it might not be construed to imply any thing in commendation of the minister; when

he saw this he must have been convinced that, if he found himself hated and detested by the aristocracy, he was not less hated and detested by the people.

The article in the *Morning Chronicle*, is, as I said before, a mere specimen of the contents of the base and foolish part of the London newspapers, which part is no small part. These same papers were endeavouring, yesterday (I have not seen what they are doing to-day), to make the nation believe that Canning's death will produce no change in the ministry, except the putting of Lord Lansdown into Canning's place, and putting some new recruit into his lordship's present office! These are the tricks constantly played off for purposes such as that mentioned in the early part of this Letter. There is no prospect, at present, of Huskisson's return. So that, with the exception of my lord **PROSPERITY**, death or disease will have swept away all the efficient part of the ministry. There requires people *to work*. The clerks do the work, but there must be somebody to look after the clerks; and there really now appears to be nobody. Dismal, indeed; really distressing; distressing to excite pity, in any body but me, is the situation of the Whigs and the apostate Reformers. But, let all others alone, my friends; let us, my good friends, the Reformers, leave the rest of the sufferers amongst mankind to take the common chance of meeting with commiseration; let us, bearing in mind the maxim of the poet,

"Friendship, like love, is but a name,

"Unless to one you stint the flame;"

bearing in mind this truly philo-

sophical maxim, let us think of nobody but our old friend **SIR FRANCIS BURDETT!** I say, then, with Mark Antony in the play, "Now, my friends, come, and if you have tears, prepare to shed them!" Come down to St. James's Place; there behold him in that disconsolate posture, the coronet ready drawn for the red book, lying upon the table before him, "my lord" sounding in his ears with a sort of sickly accent, the servants looking at him and wondering what the devil is the matter. To speak in plain English upon this subject, I have heard that he is confined, too! Of what nature his illness may be, my informant does not say: most likely, sympathetic: at any rate, it is certain that innumerable calls (not to dine) have been made at St. James's from Brookes's, which, you are to understand, is the great meeting-house or rendezvous of the Whigs or place-hunting politicians. What these people will do now, it is impossible for any man to guess. They are certainly the most unlucky race that were ever suffered to congregate together upon the face of the earth. After Pitt had kept them out of office more than twenty years, they crept in as underlings to one branch of Pitt's crew. They were kicked out again at the end of fifteen months, and then they took another spell of twenty years, hungering and thirsting after place and emolument, a devilish deal more than modern saints ever thirsted after righteousness. Then they creep in as underlings to one branch of Pitt's successors; and, now, at the end of less than six months, out they

will come tumbling again, like fellows of a Saturday night, bundled out of an ale-house upon the clock striking ten. But, if I were a poet (in prose it cannot be done), I would describe the situation of **BOBBY WILSON!** Well may they have put the shutters up yesterday at Ridgway's in Piccadilly, and at Brookes's in St. James's Street. All was mourning and all is still mourning, in those sad mansions. But, will no poet come and assist me to describe the sorrows of the Member for the Borough, who was so delighted to be placed at the back of a "*liberal*" minister, that he courageously and directly opposed the repeal of the Act which holds printers and publishers to bail beforehand. Sir Bobby had, at last; after all his disappointments, he had, at last, as he thought, got safe into port. His sails were unbent; he had got his anchor out of the hold, and was just ready to come to his moorings, and to stick the sharp fluke of his anchor into us for ever. Alas! comes the sudden hurricane from the shore, and now, to save himself, he must get out to sea again with all imaginable dispatch. There is another friend, too, now upon the circuit! His sarcasms are spoiled for the rest of the tour! What anchorage he had looked out for himself, it is rather hard to say; but, we may be quite sure that he had not chosen the worst birth in the harbour. Were he now to go to Liverpool again, he would find it difficult, I believe, to make a second muster of fools, strong enough to give him a dinner. What will be the fate of these Whigs, it is very difficult for any one to say, except this, that they

will, in a short time, be extinguished, as a party, for ever. They cannot remain as a Ministry. They could carry no measure of any importance. They would find no support from the aristocracy or from the people; and the King would be soon tired of a set of men that would have nothing to state to him but embarrassments, doubts, and fears. They will not appeal to the people; and if they did, the people would not trust them. They are pledged, if such men can be pledged to any thing, to all the free-trade schemes, which must be abandoned, unless we come to a resolution, at last, to suffer our shipping to be extinguished. They are pledged to the small-note affair, as completely as either Huskisson or Canning; and yet, they dare not meet the consequences which a perseverance in those measures would inevitably produce. I shall be asked, perhaps, what better situation their rivals would be placed in. With regard to the money-affairs their situation would be no better; but, they would have the votes, and they would really have nobody to oppose them in Parliament. The discredit of the Whigs is now so complete, that it is impossible that any man of sense should ever confide in any one of them again. If fortune or fate or whatever else you may call it, had determined to extinguish this hypocritical faction for ever; had determined to convince the whole world that our imputations against them were well founded, it could not have contrived any thing more effectual than that which has taken place. There have been about six months wherein to ex-

pose them most completely. By the ministerial demise of Liverpool, they have been let in just far enough to give them an opportunity of showing us what they really are. If they had all been put into place, they could not have exposed themselves more fully; nor, indeed, so fully would they have done it, because, men seeking for place and emolument are always more desperate apostates than when they are at once gratified with the possession. Lord JOHN RUSSELL has disclaimed all plans of reform. BROUGHAM has done the same, saying that the people do not now want it; and in every petition from the people, the people give them the lie. Sir Bobby has opposed the repeal of one of the worst of Six Acts, and BURDETT has stuck his knees in the back of the man, who, while tickled by those knees, declared that he would oppose Reform, in whatever shape it might appear, to the end of his parliamentary life. That able financier, Mr. MABERLY, has suspended his inquiries into the state of the finances, relying upon the "economical reform" to be introduced by Mr. Canning. Mr. LAMBTON, driving post haste from Naples, comes to support the son of liberality, without saying a word upon his formerly favourite subject of Reform. So that there they are; they may talk; but talk they may to their last breath, without getting attention from any human being. One thing does, I must confess, give me some degree of uneasiness; and that is, the very critical position of my old friend the veteran TIERNEY. Ah! do, Mr. WALLACE, do soften your heart, and not disturb him in that

comfortable birth where he had found anchorage after all his long buffetings by the waves of disappointment! I am afraid you will not hear my prayer. I am afraid you will be hard-hearted; but, if you could relent in favour of this old veteran, you really would confer an obligation upon me. At any rate, let me beseech you in mitigation, to let him come out erect, and not to bundle him out neck and heels.

Now, as to what the next Ministry will do; as to who is to be their Premier, that is another matter. Some talk of the great improver of the laws; and then we shall have, in all human probability, a sort of new fabric of jurisprudence, come out span new, twirled off, as it were, by the spinning-jenny. There is this one difficulty that will attend a Premiership by Mr. PEEL; and that is, he cannot very well RETURN TO BANK-RESTRICTION. HUSKISSON is *hors de combat*, apparently. His pledge is, therefore, nothing. The stupid *Old Times* newspaper says that Mr. Canning left a pressing request to the King, a sort of legacy advice, that he would make no changes in the arrangements which he had made. Supposing the King to have laughed at this, which I dare say he did, I think it probable that Mr. PEEL will be the man, and, as his office will be that of Chancellor of the Exchequer, we shall, doubtless, be greatly entertained with his schemes relative to the money. To hear him giving the reasons which he will have to give for the demolishing of his own bill, will be exceedingly amusing. He cannot return to paper payments.

He cannot prolong the duration of one-pound notes, without giving some reasons for so doing; without stating something as a ground for the measure; and he can state nothing as a ground for such a measure which will not prove that he was in a state of the grossest ignorance in 1819; and which will not prove that that ignorance, retained in spite of all the remonstrances that he had received from me, has caused all the depression of the country, all the panics, all the things that have covered this country with bankruptcy and beggary and starvation. It is impossible for him to avoid this dilemma: he must go on, demolish the one-pound notes, and blow up the system in that way; and to this, indeed, he is so doubly and trebly committed, that it is difficult to see how he can hold his head up while he is proposing a return to the paper. Twelve months have hardly passed over his head since he expressed his regret, that his Bill of 1819 was not persevered in. Indeed, it is not a twelvemonth since he uttered that expression, stating, at the same time, that the one-pound note law was to go into force, and thus reinstate his original Bill. How, then, is he to propose a Bank Restriction; or how is he to propose a repeal of the one-pound note Bill? Yet, I think he must be Minister, for, no other do I see.

After all, the people must gain by these choppings and changings. The evil will become so great; there will be such a general conviction by-and-bye, that some great and radical change is absolutely necessary, that the change will come, in spite of

every thing that can be done to prevent it. Let who will be Minister, he cannot change the march of the system; he cannot change its direction, nor arrest its speed. Happy will it be if those who have the power should yield in time to the long rejected prayers of the people. Events such as that which has now taken place, though purely accidental, are not without their effect. They make men think, who have been in the habit of never thinking at all. I do not mean that they make men reflect upon the consequences of death; but they necessarily produce changes: it is the permanence of power that makes power formidable. Accidental or not accidental, men do not reason themselves out of the impressions that are made by such events. It is a most curious incident in the history of this country, that a most signal effect should have been produced by the killing of PERCEVAL by BELLINGHAM. The Government has never been the same sort of thing as it was before that day. In the years 1817 and 1819, it was violent; it was hard; it was harsh; but this proceeded more from its groundless fears than from any thing like that haughty and daring feeling towards the people which existed previous to the death of Perceval. On the very night that Perceval was shot, he was to bring forward his measure for establishing a military garrison of *thirty thousand men*, horse, foot, and artillery, the avowed object of which was, to guard against any bad spirit that might exist in the Metropolis. The piece of ground was to be of, I think, ten square acres in extent; so that, it could not have

been surpassed by POTSDAM or the Kremlin of Moscow. Now, there was nothing that occurred to render this measure more improper after that day than it would have been on that day; Bellingham said nothing about any schemes or measures of the Government in England, of any sort; he had not a single accomplice; he was acquainted with no man that meddled with politics: all this was proved to the perfect satisfaction of the government and of every body. Bellingham was hanged in only about a hundred hours after he committed the deed; not a word was said by any body against Perceval's military project; there was no petition, and not even a newspaper paragraph against it: yet, it did with the man who was to bring it forward, as completely as if it had been a part of his body! It must have been a cabinet measure: all the rest of the ministers were still alive; no objection had been offered to it; and yet it never was more heard of, and has not been heard of from that day to this; and, were it not recorded in the pages of the Register, those who were then boys would never have heard that an English Minister had ever thought of such a thing. Therefore, these events do produce effects, and great effects. They make men who are eager in pursuit of the gratification of ambition, reflect a little on the ultimate consequences of the gratification, even if it arrive; but, they are chiefly powerful in producing changes; in bringing fresh men into play; in giving men an opportunity of abandoning errors and of sweeping away the per-

tinacity which makes men cling to most mischievous errors rather than exert their fortitude to meet the charge of having been inconsistent. I am persuaded that if a prime minister were to die every six months for a year and a half, we should, even without a single petition from the people, have a Parliamentary Reform very soon after the end of that time. One of King CHARLES's good rules that the old Tory women stick up in their houses is, "Avoid those that are given to change." King CHARLES had a pretty good specimen of the effects of change; but, he was a weak man, indeed, if he imagined that he could persuade a people that were as miserable as misery could make them, not to wish for a change.

Thus have I discharged my duty with regard to this Mr. Canning. I have known of his conduct and have been a pretty attentive observer of it, during the whole of his political life. I have known him always to be an implacable enemy of that great measure for which we have so long been contending, and which I deem, which I most sincerely and conscientiously believe to be absolutely necessary to the restoration of the good living and the happiness of the people, to the preservation of the greatness of the country, and to the pure administration of its excellent laws. This is my sincere belief. It is therefore my duty to endeavour to obtain that Reform, that great measure to which I have just alluded, to which measure he was, at all times, an implacable foe, and to be such foe to the end of his life, he has recently and most solemnly declared his reso-

lution. I am therefore bound, in obedience to common sense, and in adherence to my duty, to express my satisfaction at his death.

To you, my friends, I need say nothing, to induce you to join in this satisfaction. You must feel it, and to express it, also, is a duty which you owe to your neighbours, your children, and your country.

I am

Your faithful friend,
And most obedient Servant,
WM. COBBETT.

TURNPIKE EXTORTIONS.

WANT of room prevents the insertion of two letters to the Editors of the *Morning Chronicle* and *Morning Herald* upon this subject; suffice it to say, for the present, that, in consequence of 97 informations made by Mr. Cobbett to the Magistrates at Union Hall, against Toll-collectors on the New Surrey Roads (in the Borough) in the first place, the illegal tolls are no longer taken, in the second place that the lessees of the tolls have entered into a bond of 1,000*l.* that the like extortions shall not be repeated; and that 200*l.* have been paid to Mr. Cobbett, which, after first deducting his expenses, he has disposed of; one half to the person who gave him the information upon which he proceeded, and the other half to the Trustees of the roads in question: the expenses amounting to 55*l.*, the sums thus respectively paid were seventy-two pounds ten shillings.

MARKETS.

Average Prices of CORN throughout ENGLAND, for the week ending July 27.

Per Quarter.			
	s.	d.	
Wheat ..	60	10	Rye 46 8
Barley ..	38	7	Beans ... 48 0
Oats	27	11	Pease ... 44 10

Total Quantity of Corn returned as Sold in the Maritime Districts, for the week ended July 27.

	Qrs.		Qrs.
Wheat ..	31,832	Rye	100
Barley ..	369	Beans ...	559
Oats ...	5,363	Pease	73

Imperial Average of the Six Weeks ended July 27, which regulates the Duties on liberated Foreign Corn.

Per Quarter.			
	s.	d.	
Wheat	61	7	
Barley	41	2	
Oats	29	1	
Rye	45	1	
Beans	51	1	
Pease	49	3	

Quantities and Prices of British Corn, &c. sold and delivered in this Market, during the week ended Tuesday, July 31.—Imperial Qr.

Qrs.	£.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Wheat..	3,491	for	10,956	11	5
Barley..	286	..	43	13	4
Oats..	730	..	1,111	3	4
Rye....	15	..	27	15	0
Beans..	363	..	961	7	0
Pease ..	137	..	281	1	9

Corn Exchange, Mark Lane.

Friday, August 3.—There are this week moderate arrivals of English Grain, and a considerable quantity of Foreign Oats. The Wheat trade is so dull that sales cannot be made without submitting to lower prices. Barley, Beans, and Pease, are unaltered. Oats find ready buyers to-day, at Monday's terms. The Flour trade is excessively dull.

Monday, August 6.—There were good arrivals of English Wheat and Flour last week, small quantities of Barley, Beans, and Oats, and another large supply of Foreign Oats, chiefly from Archangel and the Baltic. This morning the fresh supplies of English Grain are not considerable, but Foreign vessels continue to arrive with Oats, the wind being very favourable. Wheat, except superfine, has met a very heavy trade to-day, at 1s. to 2s. per quarter decline from the terms of last Monday. Some New White Wheat, heavy and dry, but not very fine in colour, has sold at 66s. to 67s. per quarter.

The Barley trade is dull, and hardly supports last quotations. Beans fully maintain the terms of last Monday. New White Pease have been selling to-day at 42s. to 47s. per quarter. Grey Pease are scarce and unaltered. Oats met a slow sale to-day, but the terms are without variation from last Monday's report. From the fourth Average, there appears now some probability that the ports will remain open for Oats, after the 15th of August.

Account of Wheat, &c. arrived in the Port of London, from July 30 to August 4, both inclusive.

	Qrs.		Qrs.
Wheat ..	4,961	Tares	—
Barley ..	81	Linseed ..	6
Malt	4,540	Rapeseed ..	—
Oats	1,024	Brank ..	700
Beans ...	465	Mustard ..	—
Flour	7,133	Flax	—
Rye	60	Hemp ...	—
Pease	631	Seeds ...	8

Foreign.—Wheat, 895; Barley, 1,220; Oats, 45,455; and Beans, 500 qrs.

Price of Bread.—The price of the 4lb. Loaf is stated at 9½d. by the full-priced Bakers.

COAL MARKET, Aug. 3.

Ships at Market.	Ships sold.	Price.
81.	46.	28s. 6d. 37s. 6d.

HOPS.

Price of Hops, per Cwt. in the Borough.

Monday, Aug. 6.—The accounts this day state that the Hops, generally, are on burr, and if the weather remains favourable, new may be expected at market by the second week in September. Duty estimated at 120,000*l*. Prices nominal. By a comparison of the appearance this year compared with last, on the same grounds, it does not exceed one-third of last year, but time only will show which is correct.

Another Account.

Aug. 6.—The reports from the Plantations this morning are contradictory, but, upon the whole, opinion is against the estimated duty of Saturday, viz.—120,000*l*. There is considerable inquiry this morning for cheap Hops, but the holders, in general, seem inclined to keep, rather than make further sacrifices.

Hop Sale in the Borough.—A sale of 173 pockets of Kent and Sussex Hops took place at the Three Tuns Tavern, in the Borough, on Thursday morning. The Hops were the growth of last year. The Sussex were of an inferior quality, and fetched 45*s*. to 50*s*. per cwt.; those of the better colour brought 63*s*. to 66*s*.; and the Kent sold from 73*s*. to 76*s*., subject to the auction duty, and to be taken with all faults.

Maidstone, Aug. 2.—The continuance of fine weather has been particularly favourable for the backward bines and weak grounds, which are doing better than could have been expected; still they cannot do much: but the strong grounds, that were well manured, are now only in full burr, and, in many places, will produce a fair crop, being entirely free from vermin.

Worcester, Aug. 1.—The best proof that we can give of a general improvement in our Plantations, is the fact, that the Worcester duty is

advanced to 8,000*l*. Prices are almost nominal; the few sales effected are at a considerable reduction. Some yards still wear an unfavourable appearance, and can do scarcely any thing, and in others there will only be a top crop. The general opinion seems to be, that our produce will be one-fourth, or at most one-third of last year's crop.

SMITHFIELD.

Monday, Aug. 6.—The Beef trade on Friday was remarkably heavy; and hardly a good thing to be seen. Mutton and Lamb, on the contrary, were ready in disposal, and on rather better terms—To-day there is, as usual, a deficiency of prime Cattle; a few picked things may have made something over our top currency, but we cannot go higher for good Beasts in general than a crown. Of the inferior articles there are many not likely to be sold.

Per Stone of 8 pounds (alive).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef	3	8	to	5 0
Mutton	4	0	—	4 8
Veal	5	0	—	5 8
Pork	4	6	—	5 4
Lamb	4	8	—	5 6
Beasts	1,997		Sheep	27,750
Calves	241		Pigs	110

NEWGATE, (same day.)

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef	3	6	to	4 6
Mutton	3	4	—	4 0
Veal	3	8	—	5 8
Pork	3	8	—	5 8
Lamb	4	0	—	5 0

LEADENHALL, (same day.)

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef	3	4	to	4 4
Mutton	3	4	—	4 2
Veal	3	8	—	5 8
Pork	3	8	—	5 4
Lamb	3	8	—	5 0

POTATOES.

SPITALFIELDS, per Ton.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>
Ware	3	5	to	4	10
Middlings.....	1	15	—	2	0
Chats	1	10	—	0	0
Common Red..	0	0	—	0	0
Onions, 0s. 0d.—0s. 0d. per bush.					

BOROUGH, per Ton.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>		<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>
Ware	3	0	to	4	10
Middlings.....	1	15	—	2	0
Chats	1	10	—	0	0
Common Red..	0	0	—	0	0

HAY and STRAW, per Load.

Smithfield.—Hay....80s. to 115s.

Straw...38s. to 45s.

Clover. 100s. to 135s.

St. James's.—Hay.... 80s. to 115s.

Straw .. 36s. to 50s.

Clover .. 90s. to 130s.

Whitechapel.--Hay.... 80s. to 115s.

Straw...40s. to 46s.

Clover 100s. to 147s.

AVERAGE PRICE OF CORN, sold in the Maritime Counties of
England and Wales, for the Week ended July 27, 1827.

	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
London*	62	3	37	6	28	3
Essex	61	4	37	7	27	10
Kent.....	61	8	34	10	28	2
Sussex.....	59	4	34	0	0	0
Suffolk	60	0	38	9	25	8
Cambridgeshire.....	57	2	33	0	20	11
Norfolk	59	3	40	6	0	0
Lincolnshire	59	7	0	0	0	0
Yorkshire	58	3	36	0	26	11
Durham	64	3	0	0	31	10
Northumberland	59	9	38	8	32	2
Cumberland	67	4	42	7	33	11
Westmoreland	66	0	46	0	33	6
Lancashire	63	2	28	11	28	8
Cheshire	64	3	31	3	28	9
Gloucestershire	60	10	42	6	39	2
Somersetshire	61	3	39	0	25	3
Monmouthshire.....	66	6	0	0	28	0
Devonshire.....	68	0	38	9	30	8
Cornwall.....	71	3	44	4	37	6
Dorsetshire	62	3	38	8	29	10
Hampshire	61	3	39	2	28	10
North Wales	71	10	46	10	25	10
South Wales	70	4	45	8	32	0

* The London Average is always that of the Week preceding.

Derby, Aug. 4.—Our harvest having commenced, we had but a thin attendance of farmers. Fine fresh Wheat was rather scarce, and in good demand, at last week's prices.—Wheat, best, 60s. to 66s.; Oats, old, 28s. to 36s.; ditto, new, 30s. to 35s.; Barley, foreign, 36s. to 42s.; and Beans, 54s. to 62s. per eight bushels, Imperial measure.

Guildford, Aug. 4.—Wheat, new, for meal, 15l. 10s. to 17l. 10s. per load. Barley, 32s. to 44s.; Oats, 27s. to 36s.; Beans, 54s. to 58s. per quarter. Tares, 10s. to 12s. per bushel.

Horncastle, Aug. 4.—Our Corn market continues in the same dull state as last week, little or no business doing.—Wheat, from 58s. to 62s.; Barley, 40s. to 42s.; Oats, 28s. to 32s.; Beans, 58s. to 60s.; and Rye, 38s. to 40s. per quarter.

Ipswich, Aug. 4.—We had to-day a very short supply of all Grain, and the prices were but nominal. Our farmers are now busily engaged in harvest. A sample or two of the new Peas appeared, for which 46s. were asked. A little Wheat sold at from 58s. to 62s. per qr.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Aug. 4.—We had for the season a good supply of Wheat from the farmers, and we had also some arrivals coastwise this morning, which, with the samples from granary, seemed more than equal to the demand, and prices were 1s. per qr. lower than last week. Nothing doing in Rye. Barley for grinding sells slowly, at 1s. per stone. The supply of English Oats was small, but a good many samples of foreign are still offering, and prices may be stated same as last week. We have had showery weather the last two days, but it is considered favourable than otherwise for the crops, and partial reaping of Oats and Barley has commenced in forward districts.

Norwich, Aug. 4.—We had a good supply of Wheat to-day, and the demand not brisk; prices of Red, 54s. to 59s.; White to 61s.; Barley, nominal; Oats, 24s. to 27s.; Beans, 40s. to 41s.; Pease, 40s. to 42s. per quarter; and Flour, 45s. to 46s. per sack.

Reading, Aug. 4.—We had a short supply of Wheat this day, sales were dull, and on the average 1s. cheaper; we note it by the Imperial measure at 57s. to 70s. per qr. Four parcels of new Wheat were pitched, they were as heavy but not quite so bright in colour as the Wheats of last year; they sold at 66s. per qr. by the Imperial measure. There was only one small parcel of Barley sold, which brought 40s. per qr. Oats were in better demand, at last week's prices. No trade in Beans. Two lots of new White Pease were in the market, one sold at 42s., and the other at 45s. per qr.—Wheat, 57s. to 70s.; Barley, 40s.; Oats, 25s. to 38s.; Pease, 42s. to 45s. per quarter.

Wakefield, Aug. 3.—We have only a moderate supply of Wheat here this morning. Fine fresh Wheat being comparatively scarce, obtains last Friday's prices, but all other descriptions have met dull sale, at a decline of 1s. per quarter, and very little can be quitted. Oats sell at much the same prices, but sales are not brisk. The Foreign Barley is in very little demand at present. Good Beans are in request, and 1s. per qr. dearer, but the middling descriptions of Foreign hang on hand. Higher prices are obtained for Rapeseed, it being pretty well ascertained that the crop abroad will not produce much above half an average.

Wisbech, Aug. 4.—We have had several samples of new Oats at market, the quality fine; for one parcel 15l. per last of 21 coombs was offered. In the price of Wheat no material alteration.

COUNTRY CATTLE AND MEAT MARKETS, &c.

Horncastle, Aug. 8.—Beef, 8s. per stone of 14 lbs. Mutton, 6d.; Lamb, 6d. to 7d.; and Veal, from 6d. to 7d. per lb.

Norwich Castle Meadow, Aug. 4.—The supply of fat Cattle to this day's market was very short, prices, 3s. to 3s. 6d. per stone of 14 lbs., sinking offal; that of Store Stock was large; Scots, a few sold at 4s. to 5s. per stone of what they will weigh when fat; Short-horns, 3s. to 3s. 9d.; Cows and Calves, and Homebreds, of one and two years old, a flat sale. Horses for Riding (unless of good figure and action) hardly saleable; Cart ditto, only to be turned into money at low prices. The supply of Sheep and Lambs was large.—Shearlings selling from 13s. to 28s.; fat ones to 36s.; Lambs, 10s. 6d. to 17s. each; Pigs selling rather brisker.—Meat: Beef, 7d. to 9½d.; Veal, 6d. to 8d.; Mutton, 6d. to 7d.; Lamb, 6d. to 7d.; and Pork, 6d. to 7½d. per lb.

At *Morpeth* Market, August 1, there were a good many Cattle, and a full market of Sheep and Lambs; there being few buyers, they met with dull sale, at last week's prices.—Beef, 6s. to 7s.; Mutton, 5s. 3d. to 6s. 3d.; and Lamb, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 3d. per stone, sinking offal.